

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD SUMMARY

Monday, May 13, 2002

SENATE

H.R. 3009 - Andean Trade Preference Expansion Act:

Senate resumed consideration of H.R. 3009, to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act, and to grant additional trade benefits under that Act, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S 4267-68, D 475

Pending:

Baucus/Grassley Amendment No. 3401, in the nature of a substitute.

Pages S 4267-68, D 475

A **unanimous-consent-time agreement** was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 10:30 a.m., on Tuesday, May 14, 2002, with a vote to occur in relation to the amendment; following disposition of the amendment, Senator Dayton be recognized to offer an amendment regarding unfair trade practices.

Pages S 4290, D 475

Nomination Confirmed:

Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 67 yeas 20 nays (Vote No. EX. 108), Paul G. Cassell, of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah.

Pages S 4251-52, S 4254-67, S 4290, D 475

"... After a great deal of thought, I will not be voting for this nominee today. Although this nomination is supported by my good friend from Utah, Senator Hatch, we disagree on his suitability to serve as a Federal judge. [] I have no doubts about Professor Cassell's intelligence and his passion and commitment to how he thinks the law should read. I am sure that he is a fine professor of law. I suspect he may be an effective advocate. But when viewed as a whole, his career has been one of a results-oriented advocate, who has worked forcefully to push the law to the far right. His one-man war on Miranda, his aggressive defense of our flawed system of capital punishment, and his work on other matters place him outside the mainstream of modern American jurisprudence. Even more troubling is his clear track record of manipulating sources and data to promote his ideological agenda..." (Leahy, Pages S 4259-61)

*"... It pains me to hear my colleagues attacking Paul Cassell, one of the most stellar nominees this body has ever had the privilege of considering for confirmation to the district court bench. I have to say that, even before those disparaging remarks were made, it was already an embarrassment to me that the Judiciary Committee and Senate leadership have taken nearly a year--328 days to be exact--to bring Professor Cassell's nomination to a floor vote. This is by far the longest time that any district court nominee has had to wait for a vote during this Congress. **In fact, this vote has been delayed so long that the Administrative Office of the Courts declared the seat to which Professor Cassell was nominated a judicial emergency several months ago...**" (Hatch, Pages S 4265-66)*

Nomination Received:

Senate received the following nomination:

James E. Boasberg, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Pages S 4290, D 475

Committee Meeting for Tuesday, May, 2002:

Committee on the Judiciary: @ 10:30 a.m. Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs, to hold hearings to examine seeking justice for sexual assault victims, focusing on the use of DNA evidence to combat crime. SD- 226.

Page D 477

Remarks:

Retirement Security for Americans.

Bingaman

Pages S 4246-47

International Criminal Court.

Dodd

Page S 4249

Terrorism Insurance.

"...Banks do not want to lend money. This is a practical matter. I wish it were otherwise. They do not want to lend money when the terrorism insurance will not be written, and it will not get written because people do not know how to price or cost it. The idea was to frame some proposal to allow a bridge for a couple of years while the pricing of this product could be calculated, and to get the Federal Government out of it altogether but have us presently involved as a backstop should some catastrophic event occur. We would have a backstop so it would not wipe people out..."

Dodd

Page S 4250-51

HOUSE

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2002, at 12:30 p.m.

Committee Meetings for Tuesday, May, 2002:

Committee on Appropriations: @ 5:00 p.m. To continue markup of the supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2002. 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform: @ 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee on Government Efficiency, Financial Management, and Intergovernmental Relations, hearing on **H.R. 4685, Accountability of Tax Dollars Act of 2002.** 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary: @ 4:00 p.m. Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing and markup of H.R. 4689, Fairness in Sentencing Act of 2002. 2141 Rayburn.

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New Public Law

H.R. 2646, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2007.

Signed on May 13, 2002. (Public Law 107-171)

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Next SENATE MEETING: Tuesday, 9:30 a.m., May 14, 2002.

Next HOUSE MEETING: Tuesday, 12:30 p.m., May 14, 2002.

OLA: S. Schwarz, A. Santos